

# THINGS I WISH I KNEW DURING MY SURGERY CLERKSHIP



DONALD AND BARBARA  
ZUCKER SCHOOL of MEDICINE  
AT HOFSTRA/NORTHWELL

## ADVICE FROM THE CLASS OF 2021

### General advice for the Surgery clerkship:

Ask prior rotators or from MS4s who are currently on their AIs with you how to pre round and assist residents.

Ask the residents on your team about their specific expectations for students – some differ in terms of what they want in presentations, what you should bring to rounds, etc. Request feedback and coaching from them regularly.

When possible, attend resident teaching sessions.

On the written exam, be sure to fully answer the questions being asked.

Introduce yourself to the patients whose cases you're assigned to beforehand (if possible, in pre-op and go with them to the OR). Learn how to help in prepping a patient in the OR early in the rotation – ask residents and surgical techs what you can do to be helpful in efficiently preparing for a case.

### Quotes from the class:

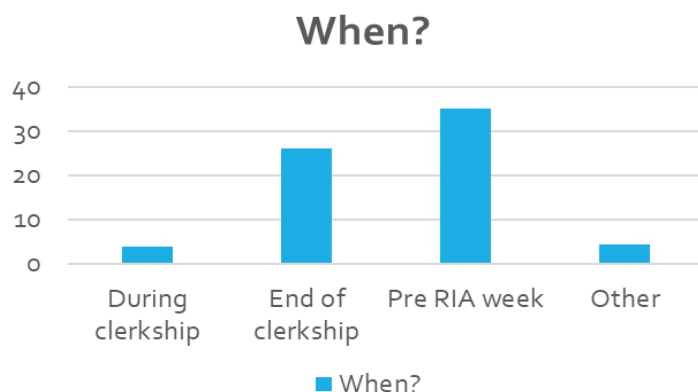
“De Virgilio is awesome! Although long, it is very organized and especially useful for those pathologies that are not covered during clerkships (CT, endocrine, ortho)”

“Lots of med in surg, so don't slack on preparation for that exam as it will help with the surgery shelf.”

“Surgery Recall was really helpful for answering questions during cases. The preceptor cases were helpful for the essay.”

### Regarding the Surgery NBME practice exams (for shelf), how many did you complete?

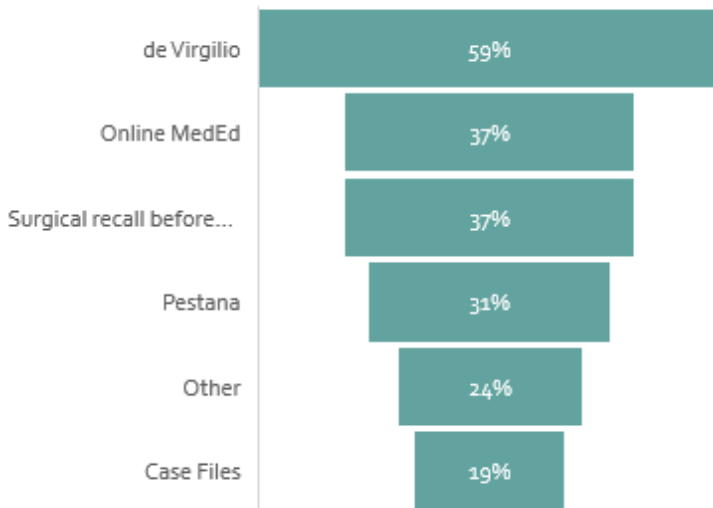
Mean:3.05 (min.:0 max.:6)



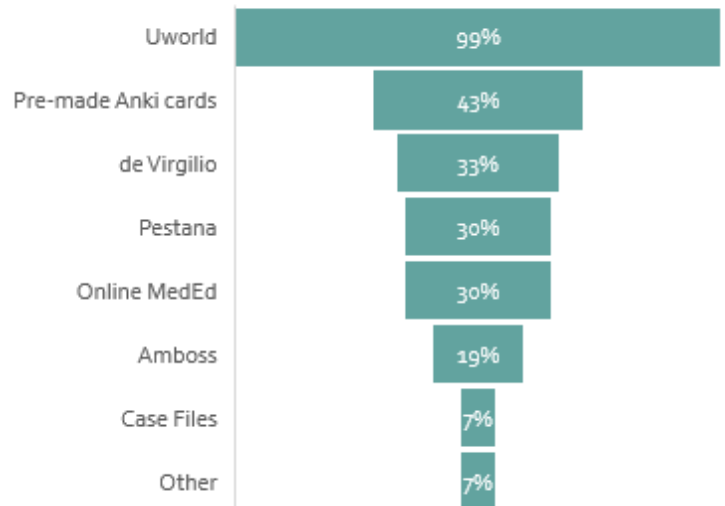
## Preparing for your Surgery clerkship:

Here are a few clerkship specific resources recommended by upper-term students to supplement your preparation.

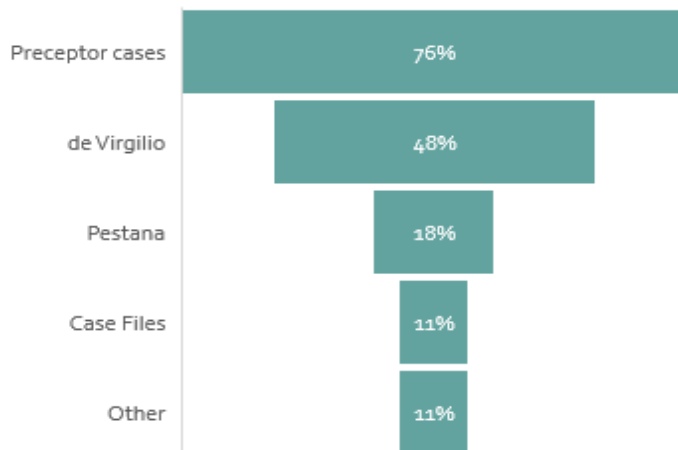
### ACE Rounds



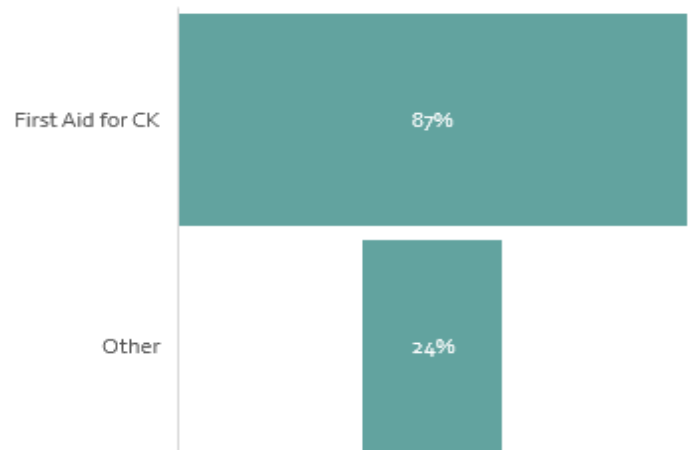
### NBME Subject Exams



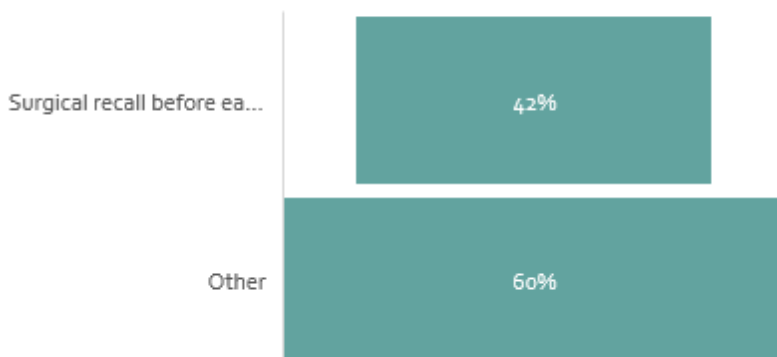
### Written Exam



### Clinical Skills Exam



### Oral Presentations



"de Virgilio was the perfect resource for ACE Rounds, patient presentations, and shelf studying. Also extremely helpful for reading about certain diseases, surgeries and their indications, steps, complications, etc. when you're assigned to cases in advance."

"Pestanas is a great quick read for key concepts and buzzwords – try to skim before and after the rotation. Surgical recall is a bit more detailed and also a great way to prepare for cases in advance. Make sure to focus on the important concepts as you may be asked about them in the OR!"

Interested in more tips? Stop in or make an appointment with the Office of Academic Success! [SOMAcademicSuccess@Hofstra.edu](mailto:SOMAcademicSuccess@Hofstra.edu)